

THE
HEROE,
OF
LORENZO,
OR

The way to *EMINENCIE*
and *PERFECTION*.

A piece of serious *SPANISH* wit
Originally in that language
written, and in English.

By Sir *John Skeffington* Kt.
and Barronet.

London, Printed for *John Martin* and *James*
Allstrey at the Bell in *St. Pauls*
Church-yard. 1652.

Let this be told the
Reader,

THat Sir John
Skeffington (one
of his late Ma-
jesties servants,
and a stranger to no lan-
guage of *Christendom*)
did about 40 years now
past, bring this *Hero*
out of *Spain* into *Eng-
land*.

There they two kept
company together 'till a-
bout 12 months now past:
and then, in a retyrement

A 3 of.

To the Reader.

of that learned knights (by reason of a sequestration for his masters cause) a friend coming to visit him, they fell accidentally into a discourse of the *wit* and *galantry* of the *Spanish Nation*.

That discourse occasioned an example or two, to be brought out of this *Hero*: and, those examples (with Sir *Fohn*'s choice language and illustration) were so relisht by his friend (a stranger to the *Spanish tongue*) that he became restless 'till he got a promise from Sir. *Fohn* to translate the whole, which he did in a few weeks,

To the Reader.

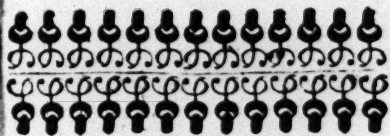
weeks; and so long as that
imploymēt lasted it pro-
ved an excellent diversion
from his many sad
thoughts; But he hath now
chang'd that Condition,
to be possesst of that place
into which sadnesse is not
capable of entrance .

And his absence from
this world hath occasion'd
mee (who was one of those
few that he gave leave to
know him, for he was a
retyr'd man) to tell the
Reader that I heard him
say, he had not made the
English so short, or few
words, as the originall;
because in that, the Author
had exprest himself so

To the Reader.

enigmatically, that though he indeavour'd to translate it plainly ; yet, he thought it was not made comprehensible enough for common Readers, therefore he declar'd to me, that he intended to make it so by a comment on the margent; which he had begun, but (be it spoke with sorrow) he and those thoughts are now buried in the silent Grave, and my self, with those very many that lov'd him , left to lament that losse.

I. W.



His epistle to the Reader.

BEcause I desire to
see thee singu-
lar, I have un-
dertaken in a
dwarf-book, to set out a
Giant, and in short periods,
immortall actions. But to
set out a man accomplisht,
and such an one as being
by nature no king, is yet
more by his qualities, will be

To the Reader.

a miracle in perfecti-
on.

Seneca would have him
endued with prudence,
Æsop with subtiltie, Ho-
mer would have him a war-
rior, Aristotle a Philo-
sopher and the Count
Duke de Lerma. would have him be a
Courtier.

According to this Cha-
racter, having Copied
some Perfections out
of the workes of these
great Masters: I intend
to present thee with a
rough draught of an He-
ros. To which purpose
I have forg'd this ma-
nuall mirror made up
of other mens Chri-
stalls

To the Reader.

ti- flatts and my own Er-
im rours. Sometimes it will
e, flatter thee, and then
O- give thee Counsell: Ano-
r- der timethou shalt find in
to it either what thou art,
nt or what thou shouldest
a bee.

a Here thou shalt find
neither Politicks, nor Oeco-
nomicks, but reason of
State concerning thine
own particular. A Ma-
riners Card to sayl by, till
thou arrive at Excellency.
An art to become famous
with a few rules of discre-
tion.

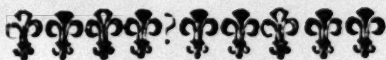
I write but short, because
thy understanding is large,
and short for the povertie
of

To the Reader.

of mine own thoughts.
I will stay thee no longer
that thou maist passe
on.

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THE HEROE.

EXCELLENCIE I.

*That the Heroes practise
Incomprehensibilities.*

ET this be the
first dexterity in
the Art of those
that understand
best: to take a right mea-
sure of the place by their
artifice; it is a Masterpiece
to make ones self known,
but not to be comprehended,
B ded,

ded, to feed expectation, but not ũdeceive it altogether: let the much still promise more, and the best action leave an appetite, and hopes behind it of greater.

If an able man would maintain his respect, he must suffer none to sound his bottom: The flood is formidable till we have found a foard; And a man is had in honour till the limits of his capacity be known, because profoundnes unknown, and presumed on, hath alwaies maintained a credit by suspition.

It was a handsome propriety

priety of speech to say
(that which discovers co-
wards) (Victory being al-
ternative in a moment) If
he that comprehends, com-
mands, then he that keeps
concealed, never renders
himself .

A well-advised man must
so carry himself that his
addresse go alwaies equall
with the curiosity of him
that attempts to under-
stand him: but such a curi-
osity, for the most part,
useth to overdoe it self,
when it gives the first on-
set .

He that is dextrous in *As in leap-*
any exercise of strength, *ing or pitch*
uses not to give over at the *ing the*
Barre.

B 2

first

first assay, but goes engaging himself from one attempt to another; every second advancing and mending the former.

This advantage belongs to none but an infinite Entity to vye much upon the stock; reserving a rest of infinity: Observe strictly this first Rule of greatness, and if thou canst not be infinite, strive to seem so, for it is no common subtilty.

In this sense no man will be nice to applaud the Paradox of *Mitylene*, *the half is more than the whole*, because one half set to shew, and the other in reserve

The Heroe.

5

serve is more than the whole in Declaration.

That great King that was the first of the *new world*, and the last of *Aragon*, was his crafts-master in this, as in all other habilities, in which none of his heroick successors could ever carry their glory so high as he. *America.*

This Catholick Mo-*Ferdinando* nark kept his contemporary princes more in breath, by the splendour of those rare qualities which appeared every day in his spirit, than by the addition of all the new Crowns that adorned his Temples.

This Center of the rayes

B 3 of

of Prudence; this great restorer of the Monarchy of the *Goths*, never appeared more glorious than when he dazeled the eyes of his *Isabella*. Heroick Consort, and of his subtile Courtiers: when they set spies upon his deportments, to sound the vigour of his spirit, and measure his Valour, which he perceiving, sometimes let fall a discovery of himself, and then of a suddain shut up himself again, another time abandoning himself to their curiosity, presently after drew a curtain before their eyes: managing his spirit with so much conduct, that at last he

he turned their curiosity
into admiration.

O thou that art one of
Fame's Candidates! thou
that aspirest to greatnes,
be vigilant to become ex-
cellent; let the world know
thee, but let none come
aboard thee: By this sub-
tltie, that which is but mo-
derate will appear much;
the much will be thought
infinite; and infinite, more.

EXCE-

EXCELLENCE II.

Cifrar la voluntad.
To cover the Will.

THis Art would be of little esteem if while we command a confinement to our capacities, we should not charge our Affections to dissemble their follies.

This piece of subtilty hath gotten so much credit that *Tiberius*, and *Lewis* have built the whole frame of their Politicks upon it.

If each excess in secret, be so in reputation, then the concealing our affecti-
 ons

*the 11th
 of France.*

tions would get a sovereignty over our selves: The weaknes of our Wills are the Syncopes of Reputation, which if once they declare themselves, the other strait perishes.

The first force serves only to suppress them, the second to disguise them: The first hath more of valour, and the last of cunning.

He that renders himself to the weaknes of his will, descends from a man to a brute: but he that bridles his will, keeps at least a Reputation in appearance.

To penetrate the whole Designes of others, is a

mark of eminent capacity; but to be able to conceal a mans own, is an incomparable superiority: To discover passion to another is all one to open him a wicket to enter the fortress of our capacity: And hence it is that politick spies raise all their battery, and for the most part make all their assaults in Triumph: The Affections being once discovered, the entries and out-gates of the will are all understood, beside a perpetuall power over us at all times.

The inhumanity of the Gentiles hath rank'd divers in the number of the Gods,

Gods, for less than a moiety of *Alexander's* heroick actions: denying that predicament to the *Laureat Macedonian* of being added to the Deities; Not assigning him a little place in Heaven, that had occupyed so much of the World: But why should they have been so sparing, when they had so much to have been liberall of?

Alexander obscured the lustre of his Actions, by his ungovern'd fury, giving himself the lye after so many Triumphs, in rendring himself to the weaknes of his Passions: It avayled him little, to conquer

quer a World, when he lost the patrimony of a Prince, which was his Reputation.

Excessive choler, and extreme covetousnes, are the *Scylla* and *Charibdis*, the two Rocks of Reputation and Excellency.

Let an able man then take good heed to suppress his Passions, or at least to dissemble them, with so much dexterity, that no countermine find a way to uncipher his will.

This quality shews men how to be wise, though they were not, and passes yet further to hide defects, deluding the vigilancy of those

those that lye sentinell to
surprize the careless, daz-
ling the eyes of those *Lynx-*
es that are alwaies busie in
discovering the imperfe-
ctions of others.

That *Chatholick Ama-* *Isabella,*
zonian (after whom *Spain* *wife of*
had no reason to envy ei- *Ferdinand*
ther *Zenobia, Semiramis,*
Tomiris, or Penthesilea)
might have bin the Oracle
of these subtilties: when
she was to be brought to
bed she shut her self up in
the most retired room, the
most withdrawn chamber
of the Palace, where her
inbred Majesty, jealous
of an inseparable gravity,
scal'd up her sighes in her
royal

Royal bosome, without suffering so much as the least dolorous accent to pass from her, and covered with a veyl of darknes those undecent gestures which the violence of pain might have extorted: But she that in her wisdom made it so nice upon excusable pretences, how much more scrupulous was she like to have beene in occasions of Honour?

The Cardinal *Madrucio* did not account that man a fool, that acted a Folly: but him that having acted one, knew not how to smother it.

This perfection is only
accessible

accessible by him that can keep silence, 'tis an inclination that's qualified and perfects it self by Art; It is an attribute of a divinity, though born by Nature, yet at least in resemblance.

EXCELLENCIE III.

La meior prenda de un Heroe .

The chief quality of an Heroe .

Great parts are requisite to make up a great entirenes, and great qualities are necessary to raise the Frame of an Heroe .

Passionate

Passionate men give it in the first place to the understanding to be the originall of all greatnes: And as they do not admit of a great man without excesses of understanding; So neither do they acknowledge a man to be of eminent understanding, except he be great.

The most eminent of visible things is a man, in respect of his understanding, and consequently his victories are the greatest.

This principall part is composed of two others: a stock of judgment, and an elevation of spirit, which being met together in one subject,

it subject, form a Prodigy.

Philosophie hath prodigally assigned faculties to the memory, and as much to the intellectuall parts: Yet give the politick leave with better reason, to admit a division betwixt judgement and wit, betwixt the Synderisis and Acutenes of spirit.

Only this distinction of intelligences, exceeds a scrupulous truth: condemning so much multiplication of spirits, to make a confusion betwixt the understanding and the will.

The Judgement is the Throne of Prudence, and Wit the spheare of Acutenes,

nes: But to judge whether the eminency of one, or the mediocrity of the other, should have the precedence, will be a pleading to be held before the Tribunall of Sense, and of every ones inclination: I shall be of that womans mind, who praying for her son. said, *Arjo bios te de entendimiento del bueno.*

Courage, and promptnes, and subtilty of wit, are like the Sun of the world in abridgment; they are like the sparkes, if they be not the very beams of Divinity: Every *Heroe* hath had a share in the excesses of spirit.

The

The words of *Alexander* gave a lustre to his Actions: *Cesar* was as prompt in his thoughts, as he was in their Execution.

But when I endeavour to set a true value upon the true *Heroes*, I find it doubtful which was more eminent in *St. Augustine*, the Majesty of his stile, or the quicknes of his conceipt: and in that famous Laurel which was given by *Huesca* to make a Crown for the Roman Empire, Constancy, and Subtilty, were at strife which should have precedence.

The Promptitudes of
the

the Wit are as happy, as those of the Will are unfortunate: they serve as wings to fly up to greatness, wherewith many have rais'd themselves from a Center of dust and baseness, to the height of splendor.

The Grand Signior using sometimes for a diversion, to appear rather uppon a Balcone in a garden, before ordinary people, than in a place of public expectation (the true prisons of Majesty, & irons of greatness) began one day to read a letter, which the wind, either in sport, or to let him see there was a soveraignty

soveraignty above his, blew
out of his hands and carry-
ed it among some scattered
leaves. The Pages that at-
tended, being emulous to
please so great a Prince,
ran down the staires to
reach it up; But one among
the rest, a *Ganimede* of in-
vention that had practised
to support himself in the
ayr, threw himself down
from the Balcone, to re-
cover the paper, and sud-
dainly again remounting
with it, presented it to the
Grand Signior while the
rest were but running
down to fetch it: And this
to speak properly was a
right remounting or rai-
sing

sing himself to greatness:
For the Prince, sufficiently
charm'd and flatter'd by so
rare an action, preferr'd
the Page to the highest
degree of his merit; and so
it becomes verified, that
subtilty of spirit, if it be
not in its own right possess-
ed of a Kingdom, deserves
to be a companion to
those that are.

This is that which dis-
playes our best abilityes: it
cries up reputation, and
raises the subject to as
great a height as the foun-
dation was layd deep.

The ordinary speeches
of a King are refin'd and
crown'd subtilties: The
great

great treasures of Monarchs have often perisht and come to nothing, but their sententious and wise speeches, are kept in the Cabinet and Jewell-house of Fame.

Some Champions have gotten more by a wise parley, than by all the swords of their armed Squadrons: victory being for the most part an atchievement that waits upon a refined spirit.

It was the touchstone, the trumpet of greatest honor to that King of wise men and wisest of Kings, in that difference which was pleaded before him by the two harlots concerning

ning their children: So we see that subtilty contributes as much to the reputation of Justice .

He that is their Sun of Justice, and sometimes assistant at the tribunal of the *Barbarians*: The vivacity of that great Turke enters in competition with that of *Salomon* : A *Few* pretended to cut an ounce of the flesh of a Christian upon a penalty of Usury ; he urged it to the Prince, with as much obstinacy as perfidiousness towards God . The great Judge commanded a pair of scales to be brought, threatening the *Few* with death if he

he cut either more or less:
And this was to give a
sharp decision to a malici-
ous process, and to the
world a miracle of subtil-
ty.

Quicknes is an Oracle
in the greatest doubts: A
Sphinx in *Enigmas*, a
golden thred in a Laby-
rinth, and corresponds
most with the nature of a
Lyon, who reserves his
greatest force till he be in
the greatest danger.

But there are a sort of
lost wits, that are as prodi-
gall of their spirits as of
their fortunes: To high
designes they are like ba-
stard Falcons; but for base
C and

and mean undertakings they are Eagles: If cruell men must be satiate with blood; they must be with poyson, in whom their subtilty abates by a contrariety of levity, burying them in an Abyssus of scorn by making the world weary of their foolery.

Hitherto we have had the favours of Nature; hereafter we expect the perfections of Art: The first is that which begets spirit, the second feeds and seasons it self with the salt of other mens wits; and many times by an anticipated care and study upon
divers

divers Observations.

The words and actions of other men, are to a fertile capacity, like Seeds, from whence springs a sharpnes of wit, wherewith the spirit being enriched, multiplies it self into a harvest of promptitudes, with abundance of subtilty.

I take not in hand to advocate the cause of judgment, since she is able to say enough for her self.

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Ex-

EXCELLENCIE IV.

Coracon de Rey .

Heart of a King.

A Great head belongs to Philosophers, a great tongue to Orators, a great breast for Champions, Armes for Souldiers, Feet for runners, Shoulders for them that carry burthens, but a great Heart only for Kings: It is one of *Plato's* Divinities, and a text, in favour of which many make the heart to contest with the understanding for a preheminence .

What

What awayles it that the
Understanding go before,
if the Heart stay behind?
Invention easily conceives
that which costs the heart
full dear to execute with
Honour.

Great effects proceed
from great causes, and
wonders of action from a
Prodigy of heart: The is-
sues of a Giants heart are
Giants: It presumes all-
waies upon Enterprises
worthy of its own great-
nes, aspiring alwaies to the
most eminent Employ-
ments.

~~Each was the heart of~~
Alexander, it was an arch-
heart, since in one corner

of it, the whole world was
contained at ease, leaving
room for six more
worlds.

And Caesar
said.

Caesars heart was likewise
vast, which could find no
difference betwixt all and
nothing.

The heart is Fortunes
stomach, which with equal
heat digests the two ex-
tremes : A great belly is
not cloyed with a great
morrell; it is not put out of
its way by affectation, nor
made sour by ingratitude:
That which would starve
a Gyant for hunger, will
prove a surfet for a Dwarf.

That miracle of valour,
the then Dauphine of
France,

France, and after *Charles* the seventh, when they told him of that sentence which was extorted from the Parliament of *Paris*, by the two Kings, one of *France*, his father, the other of *England* and his Adversary, whereby he was declared incapable of succeeding to the crown of *Lillies*: He said undauntedly, that he appeal'd; his friends wondring at his speech, askt him whither, he answered again, to the greatness of my Heart, and the point of my Sword: And his words were followed with answerable effects.

The Diamant that con-

tests with Eternity, sparkles not more among devouring Carbuncles, than a Majestick heart in the midst of the violences of danger.

The *Achilles* of our time, *Charles Emmanuel D. of Savoy*, made his way with only 4 of his own thorough the midst of four hundred of the Enemies *Curiaffiers*, & satisfyed the admiration of the world by saying, There was no better company in the greatest danger, than that of a great Heart.

Excess of Heart supplies the defect of every thing else (that being ever) the
first

first that arrives at difficulties and makes the Conquest.

They presented on a time to the King of *Arabia* a Damask Cimitar, A rarity to please a warrior. The Grandees that were about him fell to cōmend it, not for ceremonie but with reason. Some for the workmanship, others for the temper: Only some of them thought it was a little with the shortest. The K. presently sends for the Prince his son, the famous *Jacob Almancor*, to have his opinion. He came and considerd it, and said, that it was worth a Kingdome.

(A

(A prizing worthy of a Prince) The King urgd him to know whether he could find no fault with it. He reply'd that there was nothing in it that was not excellent: why but Prince, said the king, these Cavaliers have censured it to be too short. Then *Almanzor* laying hand upon his own for Cimitar said, that there was no weapon too short a valiant man, because by moving but one stepp forward his sword would be long enough: and what it wanted of iron and steel, would be supplyd in the generositie of his heart.

Magnanimity in injuries
serves

serves fitly to crown this
subject with laurel. It is the
large crest and Character
of great Hearts: and *Adri-*
an shew'd us an excellent
way to triumph over ene-
mies, when he said to the
most cruel of his, ~~But~~
thou escap'd mee?

There is nothing can
hold compare with that
saying of *Lewis* of *France*,
Let not the king of *France*
revenge the injuries done
to the Duke of *Orleans*:
These are the miracles of
the Courage of an *Heroe*.

Ex:

EXCELLENCIE V.

Gusto relevante.

A palate to relish no ordinary things.

E Very great capacity is ever hard to be pleased: The *Gusto* must as well be improv'd as the wit. Both rais'd and improv'd are like Twinns begotten by capacity and coheirs of excellency: Never sublime wit yet bred a flat or abject *Gusto*. There are perfections like the sun, others like light. The Eagle makes love to the sun. The poor frozen fly destroys

destroyes her self in the flames of a Candle. The height of a Capacity is best taken by the elevation of a *Gusto*.

It is something to have it good, but more to have it elevated. By communication *Gustoes* are linkt together, and it is a rare thing when two are met that are superlative.

Many esteem it the greatest felicitie to have what they desire, accounting all others unfortunate, but it returns to be fix all, at seaven up: and so wee see the one half of the world Laughing at the other, more or lesse foolishly

ly as it happens.

A *Critical Gusto*, and a palat hard to please, have something in them of noble and qualified; the most acomplisht objects live in aw of them, and the securst perfections are afraid of them.

Estimation is most pretious, and only wise men can merchand it to profit. All Covetousnes in money of applause is generous, and contrary, the prodigalities of estimation deserve to be punisht with scorn.

Admiration is Comonly the superscription of ignorance : It is not bred so much

much out of the perfection of objects, as the imperfection of our conceptions. The perfections of the first magnitude are singular, but in valuing of things there ought to be a great reservation.

He that had the Royall *Gusto* was the wisest of the *Philips* of *Spain*: he was accustomed to miraculous objects, and was never pleas'd with any thing but what was rare in its kind.

A Merchant of *Portugall* presented him one day with a star of the earth (I mean an orientall diamond) an epitome of riches, an astonishment for
splendor:

splendour: Every one expected that *Philip* should admire it; but he beheld it rather with a careless disdain: Not that he delighted in discurtessie, but in a kind of gravity, like one that having had his *Gusto* inur'd to Miracles both of Art and Nature, could not be so vulgarly affected as others. What may this diamant be worth to a noble fancy? (quoth the King) Sir, reply'd the Merchant, the seventy thousand Duckets which I abridged into this rare production of the Sun, need not be an offence to any body; I, but reply'd the
the

the King, what didst thou think when thou payedst so dear for it? I thought Sir, said the Merchant, there had bin a second *Philip* in the world. This answer so unexpected, prickt him to the quick more neerer than the price; whereupon he commanded the Diamant to be paid for, and the *Fentileſſe* of the *Portugall's* answer to be rewarded; shewing thereby the superiority of his *Gusto* both in the price and in the recompence.

This was Philip the second of Spain in allusion to that great Philip of Macedon.

Some are of an opinion that he that exceeds not in the commendation of a thing, dispraiseth it; But I would

would say, that all excesses of praise are from a defect of capacity; And that he that praises any thing beyond reason, either mocks himself, or those that hear him.

The Greek *Agessilaus* condemned that man for an ill master of his trade, that would fit the shooe of the Giant *Enceladus*, to the foot of a Pigmy, and in the matter of praises it is the best skill to take a first measure.

Europe was fill'd with the praise and prowess of that great Duke *D'Alva*, and yet though they filled the world with his praises, they

they took not a right measure of his *Gusto*, which left him unsatisfied; Some of his friends desiring to know a reason, He told them that for forty years wherein he had bin a Conquerour, and having had for his Camp all *Europe*, and for blason all the Empresses of his time, yet it seemed nothing to him, because he had never seen one of those prodigious armies of the Turk before him, the defeat whereof had been a triumph of dexteritie more than of force; And such an excessive power subdu'd, would have enhaunst the experience

ence and merit of a General: so many things must go to the entire satisfaction of the elevated *Gusto* of an *Heroe*.

Let not this quality make a perfect Man of a *Momus*, for that were an unsufferable disorder, but only to be a faithfull Censor of things to their value: Some there are that make their judgement a slave to their wills, perverting the offices of the sun and of darknesse: Let every thing carry reputation for it self, and not by the subornation of a *Gusto*.

Only a great knowledge favoured with a great experience

perience arrives at a right understanding of the value of perfections. And where a discreet man cannot give his vote with clearness, let him not precipitate, but retain himself for fear he make a discovery rather of what himself wants, than of what others have too much.

EXCELLENCIE VI.

Eminencie en lo mejor.
*Eminency in that which
is best.*

TO contain all perfection is granted to nothing but to the
the

the *primum Ens*, which because it receives from no other, is therefore it self without limitations.

Some perfections are from heaven, and others are got by industry; One nor both are not able of themselves to raise a subject to eminencie: So much as heaven hath denied of naturall parts, let diligence supply in those of acquisition. The first are the daughters of favour, the other of a laudable industry and are usually not the lesse Noble.

A little is enough for an individual, but a great deal must be for an universal

versal : and these are so rare that we scarce grant them any other reality than what they Steal from our conceptions.

No one man is equivalent to many. It is an excellency in one particular subject to be the abridgement of an entire Categorie, and to possess it in himself; every Art deserves not estimation, nor all employments gain not credit : we condemn not a generall Nation of all things in one man : but it were a sin against reputation for a man to practise every thing.

To be eminent in an
humble

humble and low profession, is to be great in a little, and something in nothing; to containe ones self in a mediocrity, gets an universall approbation, but he that passes on to an Eminency, puts his credit upon hazard.

The 2 *Philips*, the one of *Spain*, the other of *Macedon*, were of different humors. He that was first in all things, and second in name, thought it strange for a Prince to sing or fiddle in his Cabinet. The *Macedonian* allow'd it in his son *Alexander* to enter the list, and run a measure'd course, in an Olympic
pick

pick game. The one was a punctuality in a prudent man, the other a carelesnes that belong'd to greatness, but *Alexander* resenting it in point of *Honor*, repli'd, That he would have kings to be his Antagonists.

That which containes most of delectable, hath ordinarily a lesse share of Heroicknes.

A great man must not confine himself to one or two perfections, but push on his ambition to infinity, aspiring to a plausible universality; the perfection of knowledges corresponding with the excellen-

D

cie

cic of arts.

A slight knowledge is not enough to make a man appear consummate, it is rather a note of vain loquacity than of profound science. To attain to an excellency in all things is not the least of impossibilities, not so much by the weakness of our ambition, as of our diligence, and even of life it self: Exercise is a means to obtain a consummation of that we profess: But our time failes us in our best employments, and we are soon distasted with the length of a tedious practice.

Many mediocrities are not

not enough to compose a greatnes. One only Eminency hath more than needs to secure a superiority above all others.

There was never *Hero* known to be without Eminency in some thing, it being the Character of greatnes, and by how much the employment is qualified, his applause is more glorious. Eminēcy in an advantageous subject it is a beam of souveraignty and pretends to a kind of veneration.

And if to rule a Globe of wind with Eminency be a triumph of admiration, what shall it be repu-

ted to manage a sword, a pen, a rod, a baston, a scepter, a Crown:

That Castilian *Mars* from whose valor it became a comon saying (Castello for Captains) as Aragon for kings, *Don Diego Perez de Vargas*, more charg'd with bayes than dayes, forfok the Court to end them in *Xerez* a frontier town: He withdrew himself but not his fame, which extended it self daylie over the Theater of the univiersle. *Alfonso* the new king, but old in knowing how to value Eminency, especially in armes, put himself into

a disguise, accompani'd
with only four Caval-
liers to go see *Vargas*. (O
how Eminencie is an
adamant of wills and a
Charm of affections)
The King being come
to his house at *Xerez*,
found him not there, but
gone abroad, because *Var-*
gas to deceive his gene-
rous inclination us'd to
walk into the fields. But
the King that thought it
not much to come from
the Court to *Xerez*, made
it no scruple to goe after
him to his farm; And spied
him a farr off in his vine-
yard with a Hook in his
hand, cutting off the Heads

D 3 of

of vines, perhaps with more difficultie than at other times he had us'd to do the heads of his enemies. *Alfonso* commanded the Cavaliers to stay behind and conceal themselves, while he alighted from his horse, and with a Majestick galantry fell gathering up the twiggs, which *Vargas* had lopt, and carelessly left behind him. But *Vargas*, apprehending some little noise which the king made, chanc'd to look back, and by a loyall inspiration taking notice that it was the king, threw himself at his feet, and askt him, Sir, what
do

do you do here, proceed
Vargas quoth *Alfonso*, for
(*A tal podador tal sar-
mentador*) to such a vine-
dresser such a gatherer up
of twiggs.

Oh the triumph of an
Eminencie ! whereat let a
brave man strayn to arrive,
with this assurance, that
whatsoever it shall cost
him in travel and pains,
shall be repai'd again in
money of Honor and re-
putation.

It was not therefore un-
proper, that the Gentiles
consecrated an Oxe to
Hercules, to let us under-
stand by a mysterie, that
laudable travel is the seed

of actions which promise a
Harvest of fame, applause,
and immortalitie.

EXCELLENCIE VII.

Excelencia del primero.
Excellencie of primacie.

THere are some that
had been the
Phoenix in their
employments, if others had
not stept before them: It is a
great advantage to get be-
fore others, and if it be in a
way of eminencie the me-
rit growes double. He that
winns by the hand, may
win upon equal termes.

Those that come after
are

are counted but Imitators of them that went before, and whatsoever they do they can hardly clear themselves from a presumption of imitation.

The first raise themselves to fame by a right of eldership, while the second like younger brothers must be content with meager portions.

The curiosity of the Gentiles gave not only honor but veneration to the inventors of arts. They chang'd honor into worship. An ordinary Error, but a true expression of the merits of primacy. But the galantry is not in being the first

first in time, but the first in Eminencie.

Plurality is a discredit to it self, in things which are of high esteeme, and on the contrary, rarity enhances the price of indifferent perfections.

This is then no comon dexteritie to find out a new way to become famous, to discover an unknown trace to celebrity.

The wayes to fame are multiplyd, but they are not all chalkt out, and the newest being hard to find, have often been an obstacle to greatnes.

Salomon, did wisely in choosing the title of pacificall,

ficall, letting his father
enjoy that of a warriour:
He chang'd the path and
arriv'd with so much lesser
difficulty at the predica-
ment of *Heros*.

Tiberius strayn'd him-
self to wear that title by
Policie, which *Augustus*
had got by Magnanimi-
tie.

And our great *Philip*,
from the throne of his pru-
dence govern'd the world,
with an admiration to all
ages. And if *Charles V.*
his invincible father were
a prodigie of courage, He
was so of prudence.

The radiant Suns of the
of the Church have by
this

this policy ascended up to the *Zenith* of celebrity: Some by an eminent holinesse; Others by rarenesse of learning; Some by their magnificence in buildings; and some other by knowing how to maintain his dignitie by the strength of his wit.

By this diversitie of designs the wisest have got themselves places and been *Matriculated* in greatness.

Wit knows how to degage it self from ordinarie tracks without a defection of Art, and how to find in an old profession a new passage to Eminency. *Horace* gave place to *Virgil*
in

in an Heroick strain, *Martial* to *Horace* in the Lyrick, *Terence* addicted himself to the Comick, and *Persius* to writing of Satyres, each aspiring to a glory of being first in his kind. A generous fancy never became a slave to easie imitation.

A gallant painter observing that *Titian* *Rafael* and some others had won themselves an Honor of primacy, and that every day their fames got advantage of their deaths, used an invincible invention, and fell to work in a grosser way: Some demanded of him why he did not
paint

paint after the manner of *Titian* and others: He satisfied gallantly with this answer, that he had rather be the first in that gross way, than second in a way of more delicacie.

Let this example extend it self unto all kind of employments, and every rare man understand this kind of addresse, that in a noveltie of Eminencie, it sufficeth to find out some extravagant way to greatness.

Exc B.

EXCELLENCIE VIII.

Que el Heroe prefiera
los empenos plausibles.

*That a Heroe made choyce
of the most plausible em-
ployments.*

TWO cities gave
birth to two He-
roe's; *Hercules*
was born at *Thebes*, and
Cato at *Rome*: *Hercules*
was applauded by all nati-
ous, and *Cato* was the di-
state of *Rome*. All cun-
tries admir'd the one, and
the *Romans* shund and ha-
ted the other.

The advantage which
Cato

Cato had of *Hercules*, admits no controversie because he exceeded him in prudence : But *Hercules* went as far beyond him in fame.

Cato's work was more arduous and Honorable, for he engag'd himself to subdue Monsters of passions, as *Hercules* did of nature, yet the Thebans attempts had more of famousnes.

The difference was in this, that the enterprises of *Hercules* were more plausible, and those of *Cato*, more odious.

The plausibilitie the of imploymēt carried the fame
of

of *Alcides* as far as the Hercules
 Confines of the habitable
 world, and had gone fur-
 ther, if it had been more
 spacious : the severitie of
Cato shut up his renown
 within the walls of *Rome*.

And yet there are some,
 and not of the least judge-
 ment, that prefer a diffi-
 cult employment before a
 plausible; and with such,
 the approbation of a few
 select persons is more ac-
 cepted, than applause from
 the vulgar : plausible em-
 ployments are called the
 miracles of the ignorant.

Those that comprehend
 the excellency of an high
 employment are but few :
 yet

yet they are persons of Eminencie, and so their reputation comes but from a few. The facility of that which is plausible is discern'd by all, and grows common, and so applause is ordinarily more universal.

The approbation of a few Honor'd people, is better than the acclamations of the numerous vulgar.

Beside it is a peece of dexterity to be alwayes encountred with plausible employments, and a point of good discretion to suborn common attention, by the splendor of brave under-

undertakings the Eminencie thereof appeares to all, and the reputation is settled by every mans vote.

Pluralitie of opinions is alwayes to be prefer'd: In such kind of employments Excellencie is ever palpa-ble; and although the other (which being of a higher strain) partakes more of supernaturall and Metaphysicall, and with a plausible evidence please themselves, yet I leave the difference to every mans opinion; I call that a plausible employment which is executed in the view and to the satisfaction of all, provided that reputation be

be at the bottome, and excluding those employments which are as empty of Honor, as full of Ostentation. A stage player lives rich in applause; but dyes poore in reputation.

To be eminent, in a gentleman, is an undertaking that's set upon the theater, and must consequently be attended with a large applause.

What princes are those that make up the Catalogues of fame but warriors? To them is properly due the renown of greatness. They fill the world with applause, the chronicles with fame: because the exploits

exploits of war have something more of splendor in them than those of peace.

Among judges we assigne the strictest to immortality, because justice without Crueltie, was ever of more acceptance with the vulgar, than remissness of mercy.

In matter of wit, plausibilitie hath alwayes triumph. The sweetnes of a polish'd discourse hath had a power to charm the soul, and flatter the ears, while the driness of a Metaphysical conception puts us upon the rack.

Ex-

EXCELLENCIE IX.

Del qui late Rey.
King of his own talent.

I Am in some doubt whether to call it wisdom or a happy encounter in a *Heroes* that having an elevated perfection in himself, hath also obtain'd this attribute, of being the King of his own capacitie.

In some the Heart reignes, in others the Head: and it would be thought a high peece of foolery for a man of brains to study valor, or for the other to make war with

with his pen. Let the Peacock please himself with the glorious wheel of his train, Let the Eagle be esteem'd for the height of her flying. If the Ostrich should aspire to towre into the Ayr, her downfall were inevitable : let her please her self in the beauty of her plumes.

There is no man that in something might not have attain'd to be eminent : yet we see how few are accounted rare aswell for their paucitie as their excellencie, like the Phoenix whereof the world is in doubt whether there be such a bird. No man thinks him-

himself incapable of the
greatest employment you
can offer him, but time
(though late) will dis-
buse him in that flattery of
his own passion.

That man deserves some
excuse that is eminent in
mediocrities, though he
be but mean in eminencies
yet he that might have
been chief in sublimities
and contents himself with
mediocritie in the lowest
things, is never to be ex-
cused.

Although he were a po-
et, yet he dealt ingenuously
with us, *Tu nihil inveni*
etc. Thou shalt undertake
nothing what can then be

an opposition of thy Geni-
us, but there is nothing so
hard as to undeceive a
man in the confidence of
his own capacitie.

Oh that there were as-
well looking-glasses for
the understanding, as there
are for the face. The un-
derstanding should be a
glass to it self; but it is so
easily falsifi'd, Every judge
of himself finds presently
some text of evasion, or
some colour to suborn his
passion.

The varietie of inclina-
tions is infinite. It is one of
natures delightfull prodi-
gies: In faces; in voyces,
in constitutions. So many

E

fancies;

fancies; So many employments: The most vile and infamous ones want not their passions, and what the powerfull providence of the most politike Prince, cannot effect; becomes easie to an inclination.

If a Monarck in his own kingdome were to dispose of all Mechanick offices; Be thou a plowman, Be thou a Mariner, He would presently arrive at an obstruction. The best employment might be confer'd upon such an one that would not like it. And at this day men are blinded in their own elections of things

things that are but common and ordinary, so much power hath inclination; and if force and power be but joyn'd with it, nothing will be able to make a resistance. But ordinarily these two faculties of power and inclination meet not in the same subject.

Wherefore a wiseman must cherish his own fancie, by drawing it without violences to take a just measure of it's own power, that having found the height of his talent, he may proceed to employment with felicity.

That prodigious Mar-
E 2 ques

ques *Del Valle*, Don *Fernando Cortes*, had never attain'd, to be the *Alexander* of *Spain*, nor a *Cesar* in *America*, if he had not sort'd his abilities to his employment. His learning was able to place him but in a mean rank: but by Arms he rais'd himself to the top of Eminencie: paralleling himself both to *Alexander* and *Cesar*, with whom he divided the conquest of the world into three parts.

Ex-

EXCELLENCIE X.

Que el Heroe hu de tener tanteada su fortuna al empenarse.

The Heroe must sound his fortune to the bottome before he engage himself.

Fortune, which is as much renown'd as she is little understood, is nothing else (to speak with reason and like a Catholick) but that great mother of events, and grandchild of supreme providence, which hath alwayes assisted at causes, sometimes with willingnes, and at o-

ther times by permission.

This is that so soveraign,
so inscrutable, so inexora-
ble a Queen, smiling up-
on some, and severe to o-
thers, sometime like a
Mother, then a stepmo-
ther, not so much out of
passion as an arcanesse of
inaccessible judgements.

It is a rule among the
greatest politicks, to have a
narrow observance upon
fortune and her favorites.

*Successus
urgere suos,
instare fa-
vori Numi-
nis : Et so-
litus in
præceptis mit-
tere Cæsar
Fortunam.
Lucan.*

He that hath found her
like a Mother, let him
make use of her favour, and
throw himself freely into
great actions, for where
shee is in love with a man
shee gives her self leave to

be

be flatter'd with his confidence.

Cesar had taken the true pulse of his fortune, when he was fain to encourage his faint-hearted waterman in a storm, by saying, Be not afraid, for so thou wrong'st the fortunes of *Cesar*: He found no Anchor so sure as himself, nor did he apprehend any contrarietie of winds while he had in poop the sweet gale of the breath of his fortune.

What danger is it if the Air be troubled, while the Heavens are clear? If the Sea roar, while the stars smile?

E 4.

Such

Such a boldness in another had been judged rashness, but in *Cæsar* it was a dextrousness, that had so truly consider'd the favour of his fortune. Others have lost brave opportunities to celebrate themselves by not comprehending their fortune : Even as low as the blind gamester, there is scarce a man that consults not his fortune before he ~~sets up his stake~~.

It is a great talent to be fortunate, and in the opinion of most, the fortunate man must wear the garland : Some make more account of an ounce of fortune than of quintalls of valour

valour, or a Magazine of wisdom. Others, of a more Melancholick temper, say it is more honorable to be unfortunate; and that fortune is th'inheritance of fooles, and the reward of those that have no other merit.

The wise father redeemes the defect of beauty in his daughter with gold, and good success for the most part gilds over the deformities of the spirit.

Galen desir'd that his Physician, *Vegerius* that his Captain, and *Aristotle* that his Monark might be fortunate. True it is that
valour

valour and fortune (the 2 godfathers of every *Heroe*) are also the axletrees of greatnes.

But he that hath had often experience of fortune for a stepdame; let him strick sayl at great employments, and not overcome of her affection: for where shee disaffects generally, her Armes are leaden.

Excuse me for stealing once more a saying from the poet of sentences, for I am oblig'd to restore it again, by way of counsell. *Tu nihil incita, &c.* Thou shalt neither say nor do any thing where thou hast
for-

fortune in opposition.

The *Benjamin* of our felicitie, is at this day by the evidence of his splendor that Heroick, unconquer'd, most serene Cardinal Infant of *Spain Don Fernando*, A name that passes for blason, the nominal Crown of so many *Heroes* as have worn it.

The whole world being in some suspense, lookt after his fortunes, being asur'd of his courage. And that great prince declar'd him for her gaunt, upon the first occasion; I say upon that occasion, which was as immortall for him and his, as it was mortall to

to his enemies, the battel of *Norlinguen*, beside other progressions of *Stratagemes* in *France* and *Flanders*, and the remainder of his honor from *Jerusalem*.

It is a considerable part of the Politicks to be able to discern betwixt fortunate men and such as are unsuccesfull, that when they are met together in competition, they may be resolv'd whether it be better stand to the shock, or yield.

Solyman shew'd himself a wise man in diverting the felicity of our Catholick *Mars*, the fist of *Charleses*,
by

by using all meanes possible that his valour might be confin'd within his own sphere of *Europe*, He feared that alone more than all the Regiments of the west together: Let this be a subject of contemplation for others whom it may concern.

Charles himself strook sayl, in a time when it serv'd his turn (not for his reputation) for in that he had resign'd his part, but for his crown.

See *Sera-*
daes first
book of
Decades
neatly Eng-
lish.

The first *Francis* of *France* did not so: He was in love with the ignorance of his fortune, and desired not to understand that of *Caesar*

Cæsar his adversary: but
 as a delinquent in prudence
At the bat- he was unfortunate to be
tel of Pavy taken prisoner.

Good and ill success,
 adhere alike to those that
 are of a side: let a wise man
 take heed, which side he
 takes and at this game of
 triumph or (as we call it)
 trump, let him so take
 and discard his cards that
 he may be sure or win.

Ex.

EXCELLENCE XI.

Que el Heroe sepa dex-
arse ganado con la fortuna.

*To give over before he be
a loser.*

ALL things that are
subject to mutability
have aswell an encrease as
a declination: Others al-
low them a state like a sol-
stice, wherein there is yet
no stability.

It is a business of great
forefight to be able to stop
the revolution of a restless
wheel. It is the subtiltie of
a cunning gamester, to
give over while he wins:
where

where prosperitie it self is but a game, nothing is so certain as ill luck.

It is better sit down with Honor, than attend the Changes of an unconstant fortune, which is accustomed to shew two contrary faces in a moment.

So much as it hath of woman: so much it wants of constancy, according to an opinion of some choice spirits. When the Emperor *Charls* was in some distress before *Metz*, and ready to make his retrainct, the Marques of *Marignan* told him for his comfort, that shee had not only the inconstancy of a woman, but the

*young adversary
Hen 2 the
son of
France;
Fortuna est
juvenum.
Strada,*

the levity of a girl.

But I say they are not
the lightnesses of a woman,
but the alternative varie-
ties of a just prudence.

Charles
was now
grown old
and had a

Let a wiseman shew
himself in this: Let him be-
take himself to the Sanctu-
ary of an honorable re-
traict; because a fair retraict
is as glorious as a gallant
combat.

But there are some that
are so hydropick, alwayes
burning in a thirst of Ho-
nor, that they have no
power to command them-
selves, if fortune once be-
gin to flatter them in their
passions.

Prince Ru-
pert.

Let that great Charles,
be

be a great example of this Perfection, that eldest son of fortune and of *Heroes*: This emperor crown'd all his actions with a prudent conclusion. He triumph'd over the world by his fortune, & at last he triumph'd over fortune, by moderating himself in his ambition, which was like the sealing up of all his former prowesses.

But contrary some have put the best part of their reputation (which they had gotten) to arbitrement, by the unruliness of their desires. Great beginnings in felicity have had many times monstrous termi-

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terminations, which if they
had made use of this ad-
vise in time might have se-
cur'd their Honors.

A ring thrown into the
sea, and found in a fishes
belly, might give *Palicra-*
some assurance that he
and his fortune were inse-
parable. Notwithstanding
a little while after The
Mountain *Maiale* was the
tragical theater of a di-
vorce betwixt him and
her.

Belisario became blind,
that others might receive
light. And the Moon of
Spain fell into an Eclipse,
that it might give light to
many.

He intends
some one of
that family
De le Lu-
nx.

There

There is no art can teach
 to take the pulse of fortune
 tune aright, it beats so
 uncertain: yet nevertheless
 some presages of declination
 serve sometimes for
 diversion from dangers.

Sudain prosperities and
 inundations of successe one
 upon another have been
 alwayes to be suspected
 because when fortune is
 most prodigall of her fa-
 vours, for the most part
 shee intends no long con-
 tinuance.

Felicity that's grown
 old drawes near an end,
 and extreme ill fortune is
 not far from a reverse.

The Moor *Abul*, brother
 and Heir to the King

of *Granada*, and taken prisoner in *Salobrenia*, to beguile his miserie us'd sometime to play at Checks, (a true representation of the game of fortune) He was no sooner set down but in comes a Coroner to tell him he must prepare himself to die. Inevitable death comes allwayes post. The Moor desired him for a respite of 2 houres. The Commissary thought it too long: but yet granted him leave to play out his game. He plaid and won both his life and the kingdom: for before the game was ended, another Post arriv'd with news of the Kings death, whereby the

the City of *Granada* presented him with their crowne

There have been as many that have risen from the scaffold to the Crowne as have descended from the Crowne to the scaffold the good morsells of fortune had never so good relish as when they were season'd with an Agony of danger.

*Somre
sweet*

Fortune is not unlike pyrates that wait for vessels at sea till they be fraught. The counterplot must be to anticipate and take some port. betimes.

EXCELLENCIE XII.

Gracia de les gentes.

The love of the people.

IT is but a small conquest to gain the understanding, if the will be not won, and tis a great matter to make a joint conquest of admiration with affection. Many maintain their credits by plausible actions, but they get not benevolence.

He must be born under a favorable constellation, that obtains so universal a grace, but the best part proceeds from our own dili-

diligence; Others hold a contrary discourse when applause doe's not correspond to an equality of merits. That which in one mans nature drawes affection like the adamant, another hath it by a conspiracie or secretnes of practice. I shall alwayes yeeld the superiority to that facultie that's artificiall.

An Eminencie of perfections serves not to get the peoples affection, (although it be enough) Affections are easily gotten where the understanding is suborned, because affection follows good opinion.

The

The Duke of *Gaife*, that was as famous in misfortune as he was rich in the endowments of nature, did very happily practise the way of gaining common favour. He grew in greatness by the favour of one King, and grew greater by the emulation of another, I mean the third of the French *Henries*; A name fatall to Princes in every Monarchy: For in so great a subject the name deciphers Oracles.

Charles 9th
Henry 3.

The King one day askt some Lords that were about him, what it was that *Gaife* did to make himself so powerfull to bewitch

F

the

the people : An ingenuous Courtier, and the chief of those that were present, answered him, Sir by dealing curtesies with both hands : Those whom the influences of his curtesies, reach not in a direct line, they have it by reflexion, and where his power extends not into action, there he charms with good words ; If they invite him to a wedding, he fails not to be there ; If to be a godfather, he never refuses ; If to an enterment, he honors it with his presence ; He is Human, courteous, liberall, endears all the world to him, and
speaks

speaks il of none ; In conclusion, He is the king in their affections , as your Majestic is in effect.

A happy grace, if it had been in relation to his Prince, and without which it was of no essence : whatsoever the opinion of *Bajazet* were : yet wee find that applause given to the minister cannot but en-jealouse the Sovereign. And to say truth, the Grace of God, and of the king , and of the people, are 3 graces of more beauty than those other 3 that were feigned by antiquity. They hold hand in hand, and are so streightly ent-
F 2 laced

laced that if any of them
fayl; let it be able to shew
a good cause.

The most powerfull
Charm to make ones self
beloved, is to love, the vul-
gar are as violently car-
ried away in their affecti-
ons as they are furious in
their persecutions. The first
thing that gets their love
after a good opinion is cur-
tesie and generousnes, by
means whereof th' Empe-
ror *Titus* was called the
delight of mankind.

*Delicias
humani ge-
neris.*

The favorable word of
a superior is as good as an
obliging action from an
equal, and a curtesie from
a Prince, exceeds a rich
pre-

present from the hands of
a Citizen.

By forgetting Majestie
but a while the Magnani-
mous *Don Annofo*, fighting ^{King of}
from his horse to relieve ^{Naples.}
a country fellow that was
in some danger, conquer'd
the fortified walls of *Ger-
etta*, which the battery of
his Guns could not have
done in many dayes. He
made his first entry at
their hearts, and presently
after, entered in triumph
into their city.

Some over-turious Cri-
ticks could find nothing ^{Fernando}
so eminent among the ^{Gonzales,}
merits of the great Cap-
tain that Giant of *Heroes*
as

as the love of the people.

And I am of the same opinion, that in a plurali- of perfections, where each deserves a plausible renown, this was the happiest.

There is also the favour of Historians to be had in ambition as much as Immortality; because their pennes are the wings of renown: They set not out so much the favours of Nature, as of the Soul: That *Phænix Corvino*, the glory of *Hungarie*, was us'd to say, and practise it much better, That the greatness of an *Heroe* consisted in two things, by
inuring

inuring his hand to Glo-
rious Actions, and to the
Pen, because Characters
of Gold bind up Eterni-
ty.

F 4

Ex.

EXCELLENCIE XIII.

Del Despeio.

We have no word to express Despeio, the French call it Entregent, the Chapter gives a definition, and I must use the word Entregent.

THE *Entregent* is the Soul of every rare quality, the life of all perfection, the vigour of action, the grace of words, the charm of well-born spirits, sweetly flattering the understanding, and sets all expression upon the tenter hooks.

It

It is an enhaunsment of excellency, It is the beauty of formality ; Other parts adorn nature, but this improves those adorning parts, insomuch as it is the perfection of perfection, by a transcendent beauty, and by an universal grace.

It consists in a certain ayryness, in an unspeakable cheerfulness, as well in words as actions, and passes even into discourse. It receivs the best advantage from nature, although it borrow something from observation. It was never subject to directions nor to the precept

cept of a superior although it were alwayes govern'd by art ; when it steales away the fancy, 'tis call'd an allurements ; when 'tis not easily discern'd, 'tis call'd an ayriiness. If it be put on by courage 'tis animosity : If out of galantry or Gentleness, 'tis a sweetness of carriage, If it be done with facility 'tis address. All these names have been given it out of a desire and difficultie of expressing it.

They do it wrong that confound it with facility, for it leaves that far behind it, and goes as far before bravery: and although
all

all Entregent presuppose freedome, yet it add's to perfection. If actions have any thing of splendor, the obligation is to Entregent, for that sets them to the light.

Without this the best execution is dead, and the greatest perfection unpleasing. Neither yet retains it somuch of the nature of accident, that sometimes it stands not for the principall. It serves not only for ornament, but for a prop to the most important affaires.

Wherefore if it be the soul of beauty, It is the spirit of prudence; If it be
the

the breath of gentillesse,
it is the life of valor.

The Entregent gives
as much Lustre to a Com-
mander in war, as his cou-
rage, and in the person of
a King it parallels pru-
dence.

The freedom of En-
tregent is of no lesse use
in the day of a battell, than
dextrousness and valor.
It makes a generall first
master of himself, and then
of all that are under him.

The brave assurance
of that Conqueror of
kings, that contender in
honor with *Alcidet*, *Don*
Fernando d'Avalos, is ne-
ver enough magnified:
let

let fame resound his pray-
ses upon the Theater of
Pavy.

He took
France
prisoner at
Pavy bat-
tel.

The Entregent discovers animosity almost in him that sits on horsback, as in him that sits under a cloth of state. It add's acuteness to pleading, and graces the Orator in his chair. Most Heroicall was the disengagement of that French *Theseus*, Henry the fourth, who by the golden threed of his Entregent found a way to free himself out of that intricate labyrinth.

The Entregent hath no lesse influence upon the politick. And therefore
upon

upon the credit of that
spirituall Monark of the
world, I come to ask this
question, Whether there
be not another world to
govern?

EXCE-

EXCELLENCIE XIV.

Del natural imperio.

THis primacy is interested in another quality so subtile and separate from Common apprehensions, that it were in some hazard to be flung up for a transcendent, if curiosity had not cautioned for it.

We see a certain in-born and naturall sovereignty in some men, which seems to spake in them, and upon others by a secret influence, a power of domination, which wins it self
an

an obedience without help
of exterior precepts or a-
ny art of perswasion.

Cesar being taken pri-
soner at sea by certain py-
rates that were Ilanders,
presently became the ma-
ster of them. He being
conquerd, commanded,
and they Conquerors, o-
bey'd; By ceremonie he
was a Captive, and in rea-
lity of soveraigntie be-
came their Lord.

One man like him does
more execution with one
stern look, than others
with all their industrie.
Their reasons have an oc-
cult vigor, which pre-
vailles more by sympathie,
than

than by any thing that's
visible.

The proudest mind sub-
mits to their domination,
without knowing why or
how, and the freest judge-
ment renders it self with-
out constraint.

Such persons among
men have as great an ad-
vantage as Lyons among
creatures, because they
have a share in the princi-
apll quality which is do-
mination.

All creatures acknow-
ledge the Lyon by instinct
of nature, and doe him
homage by way of pre-
vention before they have
examined his valour.

So

So to those *Heroes*, other men give them respect by way of advance, without staying to take an inventory of their habilities.

This is an Excellency deserving a Crown, and being match'd with a great understanding and height of courage, it can be said to want nothing why it should not form a *Primum Mobile* in politicks.

This sovereign quality was in the person of *Don Hernand Alvarez*, (*Duke d'Alva*) as in a throne : A lord more by privileges of nature than of curtesie : He was great,
&

& born to be greater, for in his ordinary discourse He knew not how to disguise a naturall imperiousness.

It holds great difference from a measur'd and borrow'd gravity, from an affected tone of voyce, which is a very fift essence of odiousness, and though being naturall, it might be born with, yet it comes very neer to tedious importunity.

The distrust which it hath of it self raysets contradictions upon every design. And if once it come but to lose confidence, it falls off to be the skorn of the

the world. It was th'advise of the great *Cato*, (and suitable to his severity) that a man should not only respect but be in fear of himself.

He that loses himself to himself, His fear gives licence to others, and by his own permission he makes himself to be easily abused.

Ex.

EXCELLENCIE XV.

De la sympathia sublime.

IT is a perfection in one *Hera* to hold sympathye with another. If a plant sympathize with the sun, it grows among others to a Giantlike height, and the flower of it is the Crown of the garden.

Sympathie is one of those prodigious things which nature hath seald up: but th'effects of it are matter of astonishment, and subject of admiration.

It

It consists in a parentage and kinred of hearts, as all Antipathy is in a divorce of wills: Some give it the originall from a correspondence of tempers, others from a supernall alliance in the stars.

The first aspires as high as doing of miracles, the other produces monstruosities. They are but the wonders of sympathye those which common ignorance calls charms, and vulgar spirits will have them to be enchantments.

The most accomplished perfection suffers scorn from antipathie, and the most

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t

most deformed fowlness
is thought a perfection
with sympathie.

Even betwixt father
and son it pretends a ju-
risdiction, and executes
every day something of
power, trampling upon
laws, and defeating the
privileges of nature and
policy. The antipathy of a
father takes away a king-
dome, and a sympathie
gives one.

There is nothing which
the merits of a sympathie
cannot obtain, it perswads
without eloquence, it com-
passes whatsoever it de-
sires, by presenting the
sym-

symptomes of naturall
Harmony.

An eminent sympathie
is the Character, it is the
starr that inclines to Hero-
icity: although some be
of the nature of adamant
that maintains antipathy
with the diamant, and
holds sympathie with
Iron: It is a monstrosity
in nature to be in love
with dross, and to hate
things of splendor.

Lewis the 11th was a
Monster among kings. He
had an antipathie to great-
ness, more by nature than
art. He was so wedded to
his own principles that
he lost himself in the
dreggs

dreggs of the Category
of Policie .

Active sympathy, if it
have any thing of subli-
mity, raises the subject:
but the passive more, if it
be Heroicall .

It is more precious than
the great stone in the ring
of *Giges*; and in power it
is stronger than the chains
of the *Thebane*.

Hercul,

It is easy to have an in-
clination in observance of
great men, but it is not
so easy to be like them in
a Correlation. The Heart
sighes and speakes alowd
many times when it is not
answered with an Eccho of
correspondency. In the

G

School

School of Love this is the
A . B . C . where the
first lesson is of sympathy;
let it then be a dexterity
of discretion to know and
comprehend perfectly the
passive sympathie; make
use of this naturall Charm,
and let Art supply the de-
fects of Nature; it is an
obstinacy as undiscrēt as
unprofitable, to pretend to
do any thing without this
favour of Nature, or to
seek to conquer Wills
without the manition of
sympathy .

But if it be in a King, it
may be called a Queen of
all perfections: It exceeds
the termes of a Prodigie;
It

It is a Basis that hath served to raise a Statue of immortality, upon the foundations of a good Fortune .

This so vast a perfection lies sometimes in a Lethargy, if it be not relieved by the sweet breath of Favour . The Adamant drawes not iron beyond the limits of his attraction : Nor can a sympathy work beyond the spheare of his activity . The principall condition is to be within distance ; but take heed of interposition .

You that aspire to the qualities of *Heroes*, rowse up your attentions, for

G 2

with

with him that attaines to
this perfection, the mor-
ning Sunne arises in a glo-
rious light.

Ex-

EXCELLENCIE XVI.

Renovacon de Grandeza.

THe first imployments
are a tryall of worth,
and a setting forth of cre-
dit and capacity to the
view of the world. Mira-
cles by accident which fall
out in progression, are not
sufficient to enhance ordi-
nary beginings; and what
a man strives to do after-
wards, scarce makes a-
mends for what he should
have done before.

A gallant begining hath
this in advantage, that be-

sider what it gets of applause from the World, it engages still to higher attempts.

Suspicion in matter of reputation, at the beginning is of the nature of Predestination, which if once it enter into contempt, it never gets out again.

Let the *Heroes* raise himself like the Sun in his East, affecting great enterprises; but the greatest at the beginning.

A common employment can never get an extraordinary credit; no more than a Pygmie can pass for a Giant.

Advantageous begin-
ings,

ings are affianc'd to good opinion, and those of an *Heroes*, must take their mark a hundred Fur'ongs beyond the projects of the vulgar.

That Sun of Captaines, and Generall of *Heroes*, that Heroick Count *Fuertes*, was born to be applauded.

In one daies march of the Sunne, which appears like a Giant in his Orient, he begun and finisht his Masterpiece.

His first attempt might have been a Barricado to th'ambition of the God of War: He never made his Novitiat in Fame, but past

the first day to immortality .

He besieged *Cambray*, against the opinion of all the other Commanders , his comprehension being as extravagant as his courage. He was sooner known for a *Heroe* than for a souldier .

To disingage with Honor from a great expectation , is no ordinary busines. He that is but a looker on conceives highly , because it costs him less to imagin great actions, than another to put them in execution: an exploit unlookt for, shews more than a Prodigie that was prevented by expectation

The

The Cedar growes more in his first morning, than Hisop in an age: because the first fruites being vigorous, the second threaten a gigantick growth.

A maxim in the Antecedent drawes a mighty consequence, the power of Fortune declares it self: the greatnes of a capacity, universall applause, and common grace attend it.

But vigorous beginnings are not enough, where it failes in the progress: *Nero* began his Reign with the applause of a *Phænix*, but ended it with the horreur of a *Basilisk*.

If disproportionable extremes come to be joy-ned together, there can be no production but mon-struosity.

It is a hard matter to keep credit alwaies grow-ing, and as hard as it was to give it a beginning; Reputation growes old, and applause is perishable as all other things, because the Lawes of time know no exception.

The Philosophers say, that the Sun, the greatest of Lights, hath lost much of that splendour and heat which it had at the Creation.

But it is of an Eagles na-
ture

ture as well as of a Phoenix
to grow young in Fame,
to renew greatnes, and
to bring applause to a se-
cond birth.

The Sunne every day
changes his Horizons, and
removes his fires to new
Theaters: to this end, that
a privation in the one, and
a newness in the other,
may perpetuate admirati-
on and desire.

When the *Cæsars* retur-
ned from illustrating the
rest of the world with
their victories, they came
alwaies back to their O-
rient of *Rome*, where they
were received like new-
born Monarchs.

The

*from Ame-
rica where
it growes
to Europ.*

The King of Metalls
passing from one world
to an other, hath also past
from an extremity of
contempt to another of
estimation.

The greatest perfecti-
on loses of his worth by
being every day in sight:
the object cloyes desire,
and distasts Appetite.

Ex.

EXCELLENCIE XVII.

Toda prienda son affectation.

Every perfection without affectation.

EVery perfection, every excellency, must serve to adorn the *Heros*, but he must affect none, for affectation is ~~the~~ **Conterpoids** of greatnes.

Affectation is a tacit praying of ones self, and for a man to commend himself is the surest way to be expos'd to scorn. Perfection must be in a mans self, but praise in others.

others : and 'tis a deserv'd punishment, that he that so foolishly remembers himself, should be as discreetly forgotten by others.

There is nothing so free from servitude as estimation, it is subject to no artifice, much lesse to violence. It yeelds it self sooner to a dumb eloquence of deserts, than to a vanity of ostentation.

A little esteem of ones self hinders a great deal of applause from others.

All wise men judge every affected quality rather to be violent than naturall, rather apparent than
reall,

reall, and so it abates much
of estimation.

All *Narcissuses* are
fooles, but those that are
so in their minds are incu-
rable, because their dis-
ease lyes in the remedie.

So then, if to affect per-
fections be a folly of
eight, what degree shall
be left for them that affect
imperfections? By avoyd-
ing affectation, some fall
into the very center of it,
while they affect not to
affect.

*Royall of 8
reald de ocl
is the high-
est coyn of
Silver in
Spain.*

Tiberius lov'd dissimu-
lation, but he knew not
how to dissemble his dis-
simulation. The perfecti-
on of an art consists in the
well

well disguising of it: and the greatest artifice must be cover'd with a greater than it self.

He that partaking of many perfections, seemes to have none in estimation, is of a double greatnes, for by a generous disdain he awakens the common attention, and seeming to be blind in his own virtues, He makes others open *Argus's* eyes upon him.

This may be call'd a miracle of dexterities, for if others rise to greatnes by other wayes, this guides him to a throne of fame by a contrary way, setting him
under

under a Canopy of immortalitie.

EXCELLENCIE XVIII.

Emulacion de ideas

THe greatest part of *Heroes* left no sons behind them, and though they did, yet they prov'd not *Heroes*: but yet they wanted not imitators. Heaven rather expos'd them for examples of valour, than for propagators of nature.

Eminent men are the living texts of reputation, from whom an able man may take lessons of greatness

ness by repeating their actions, and interpreting their exploits.

They must still set before them such as are the first in every predicament, not so much for Imitation as Emulation, not to follow but to get before them.

Achilles was the *Heraick* wakener of *Alexander*, who sleeping in his sepulchre, awakened him by the Emulation of his fame; The generous *Macedonian* open'd his eyes, as much to weep, as to behold him, and wept not to see *Achilles* in his tomb, but to see himself
so

so farr behind him in renown.

Alexander engaged *Caesar* in the very same kind, & look what *Achilles* was to *Alexander*, *Alexander* was the same to *Caesar*. It prickt him to the quick in the generositie of his heart, and thrust him on so farr, that he put fame into the balance, and greatnesse into comparifon : because if *Alexander* made the Orient to be the large theater of his prowesses, *Caesar* made the Occident to be so of his.

The Magnanimous
Don Alonso of *Aragon* and
Naples,

Naples, us'd to say, that a courageous Horse, was not more moov'd by the sound of the trumpet, than he felt himself inflam'd by the trump of *Cæsar's* fame.

And it is worth observation to see how these *Heroes* go inheriting each others greatness, by their emulation, and by their greatnesse, their fame.

In every employment there are some that occupy the first classe, and others the lowest : Some are the miracles of excellency, and others the *Antipodes* of miracles, let a wise man graduate them as they

they deserve, and make himself perfect in the categorie of *Heroes*, and in the catalogue of fame.

Plutark in his parallels made a table of the *Heroes* of former ages, and *Paulus Fovius* in his elogies, a list of the modern.

Now it is desir'd perhaps to have an absolute *Chrysis*, but what wit shall presume to make one?

It is easie to assigne them a place in time, but it is hard to set a right value upon them. It might have been an universall *Idæa*: if it had not past to be a miracle, leaving all imita-

imitation in idleness, and only taking up admiration.

That Monarck of *Heroes*, the first of the worlds inanimated wonders and 4th of Spanish *Philips*, to whom as to the sun of the House of *Austria*, they owe their *fourc sphere*, Let him be a generall looking glasse that represents not only magnitudes but maximities. Let him be call'd the common object of emulation for *Heroes*, being the center of all his own prowesses, and let applause equivocate it self into blasons, with *Eminent phrases* of
sense

sense. He that for his felicity may be call'd the fortunate, for his courage the valiant, for his wisdom the discreet, for his zeal the most catholick, for his ayринesse the most entregented, and in all things the uniuersall.

*See how
this exces-
sive comen-
dation a-
grees with
the 5 ex-
cellence.
He calls
him fortu-
nate for lo-
sing Portu-
gall and
Catalgo
nia.*

Ex-

EXCELLENCIE XIX.

Paradoxa Critica.

Although our *Heroe* may be secure from the Ostracism of *Athens*, yet he will be in some danger of the Criticismes of *Spain*. The extravagancie of those may make him an exile at home; but he can be banished but to the precincts of Fame, and to the confines of immortality.

This Paradox condemns him to be peccant for not sinning: ~~It is a~~ criticall primacy of a veniall falling
ing

X.
ing into Prudence and
Valour, only to entertain
Envy, and to feed Malig-
nity.

These Criticks conclude
it impossible for any man
to escape their censure, al-
though he had resplen-
dent perfections; because
they are so like the hungry
Harpies, which when they
fail of finding a prey that's
base enough for them,
fall upon some better.

There are intentions
compounded of so subtle
and Metaphysicall poyson,
that they can transform
the best qualities, and make
the best perfections abor-
tive, giving a sinister in-
H terpre-

pretation to the most justified pretences.

So it must pass for a sleight of Policy to consent to some veniall sinns, that Envy may have something to gnaw on, and the poyson of Emulation may be diverted.

Let it pass for a politick treacle, for a counterpoyson of Prudence; since being bred out of an infirmity, it is attended with Health: It secures the heart by exposing it self to detraction, and drawing the venom to it self.

Beside we see sometimes a little defect in Nature, adds a perfection in other parts

parts : a Næve, or Mole
upon the Face raises the
lustre of a beauty .

Or black-
patch

There are defects with-
out defect : *Alcibiades* af-
fected some in Valour, *O-
vid* allowed some in the
highest Wits, and call'd
them cauterizing for
healths sake .

But this perfection seems
an idle one, and is rather a
curiosity of a man concei-
ted of himself, than any
point of discretion .

But who can be that
Sun without an Ecclips ,
that Diamant without a
cloud or a flaw, that Rose
without a prick ?

There needs no artifice

H 2

where

where Nature is sufficient,
and all affectation is super-
fluous where neglect is be-
coming.

EXCELLENCE the last.

ALL Light descends
from him that is the
Father of Lights, and if
from the Father, then to
his Sonnes: Virtue is the
daughter of auxiliant light
and hath an inheritance of
splendor.

Sin is a monster, wherof
blindnes hath made abor-
tion, and therefore it is
the heir of darknes.

Every *Heroe* partakes as
much

much of Felicity and Greatnes, as he does of Virtue; because from the hour of birth, to that of death, they run paralleli lines. In *Saul* they were both ecclipst, and in *David* they appeared like the dawning of the day.

Constantine was the first among the *Cæsars* that was called the Great, and he was also the first Christian Emperour: He was that Oracle that declared the first aliance betwixt Christian virtues & greatness.

Charles the first Emperour of the house of *France*, obtained the same renown by being called

Charlemain, and aspired to be a Saint .

Lewis that most glorious King of France, was the flower of Saints and of Kings by the name of Saint *Louys* .

In *Spain Ferdinand*, commonly called the Holy, in *Castile* was one of the great men of the world.

The Conquerour of *Aragon* consecrated as many Temples to the Empress of Heaven, as he won Castles.

The two Catholick Kings *Ferdinand* and *Isabell*, were the *non plus ultra*, I mean the Columnes of the Faith. The

The Good, the Great,
the Pious, the Zealous of
Philips of *Spain*, without ^{Phil. 3.}
losing one hand-breadth of
Earth, won Heaven by
ells, and subdued more
Monsters by his virtues,
than *Alcides* with his club.

Among Captaines *God-
frey* of *Bullion*, *George Ca-
striot*, the great Captain
Gonzalo Fernandez the first
Knight of *Sanctacruz*, and
that terror of Turkes *Don
Juan* of *Austria*, have
been mirrors of virtue, and
Temples of Christian pi-
ety.

Among the *Heroes* of
the Church, the two first
to whom greatness gave a

H 4 surname

surname, *Gregory* and *Leo*,
 have had their greatest lu-
 stre from their Sanctity.

Saint *Augustine* (that
 Sun of spirits) reduces all
 the greatnes of the Gen-
 tills and of Infidells to a
 foundation of Morall vir-
 tues.

The greatness of *A-*
 lexander was never con-
 fin'd till his virtues began
 to decline, and *Hercules*
 gave not over conquering
 Monsters of strength, un-
 till he yielded himself to
 the weaknes of incontinen-
 cy.

The justice of *Fortune*
 grew to be as cruell to the
 two *Neroes*, as they had
 shew'd

shew'd themselves tyrannous to their Vassalls.

Sardanapalus, Caligula, and *Rodrigo*, were the Monsters of lasciviousness, and basenes of courage, and after became examples of horrible punishment.

In Monarchies the same Divine Justice is observable; That Nation which deserved to be called the Flower of Kingdomes, *France*, maintained greatness while Piety and Religion flourish: as soon as Heresie sprung up, she withered as fast.

~~The Phoenix of Provinces~~ found a Tombe ~~in the~~ *Spain*.

ashes of *Rodrigo*, and was
born again in the Piety of
Pelagius, or in the zeal of
Ferdinand.

The great house of *Austria* made her self the
wonder of Families, by
founding her greatness in
that which is the Cipher
and Epitome of Gods Mi-
racles, and set her Imperi-
all blood in the Rubick, by
a religious devotion to
that blood of our Lord
which is in the holy Sa-
crament of the Altar.

Now you judicious spi-
rits that pretend to *Heroi-
city*, observe this most
important quality, make
this your most constant
piece of Policy. No

as No greatnes can lay a
of foundation in sin (which
of is nothing) but in God
who is all in all.

na- If mortall Excellency be
he to be desired, eternall Ex-
by cellency is to be ambitio-
inated.

er To be a *Heros* of the
li- World is very little (or
ri- rather nothing) but to be
by an *Heros* of Heaven is
to somthing ; *To whose great*
rd *Monark be praise and Ho-*
a- *nor and Glory.*

FINIS,